

CITY OF HAYWARD

AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 02/17/04

AGENDA ITEM _____

WORK SESSION ITEM WS #3

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Information Regarding Beat Restructuring and Crime Statistics

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council review and comment on this report.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this report is twofold. First, it provides the City Council with information regarding the Police Department's conversion from an eight-beat to a nine-beat resource allocation structure. Second, it presents some early statistics regarding serious crime in Hayward for the 2003 calendar year.

Virtually every police department divides the jurisdiction it serves into geographic areas, usually referred to as beats. Such divisions are created to ensure efficient allocation of resources and to maximize service levels. For over a quarter century, until very recently, the Hayward Police Department deployed Patrol officers using an eight-beat configuration. Early in 2003, Department staff recognized that demographics, crime trends and demands for service had all evolved, rendering the old eight-beat configuration archaic. A working group of volunteers from throughout the Department was then formed to create a new resource allocation model.

The working group's initial task was to analyze 227,014 citizen calls for service and officer initiated events that occurred between January of 2002 and April of 2003, classifying each event by type, time and location. The group then combined this analysis with their knowledge of Patrol Division staffing levels and their own experiential knowledge about neighborhood integrity and geographic boundaries to develop a new nine-beat configuration for the City.

The Working Group's research disclosed two essential findings: First, The group identified that the call volume in the existing "D Beat," as a result of both the Southland Shopping Center and criminal activity in the South Garden area, far exceeded other beats in the City. Second, the group noted that officers responding to the disproportionately high activity levels in the "D Beat" caused a domino effect in other beats throughout the City. On a regular basis, other areas of the City were without a beat officer while the officer normally assigned to that area responded to the "D Beat."

The Police Department anticipates that the new nine-beat model will enhance service to the community in two important ways. First, the new configuration will provide a more equitable distribution of workload. Second, the new configuration will reduce response times. The Department intends to conduct an evaluation later this year to measure the effectiveness of the nine-beat model in accomplishing these objectives.

I would like to recognize and thank the following personnel for their contribution to this project: Lt. Mark Koller, Sgt. Bob Weldon, Sgt. Mark Mosier, Officer Jeff Lutzinger, Officer Jeff Snell, Officer Aaron Edens, Communications Supervisor Desi Calzada, Communications Operator Jennifer McAdams, Information Systems Manager Wayne Heimsoth and Technology Services personnel Jeff Suneson, Michael Loconte and Linda Yach.

2003 Crime Statistics:

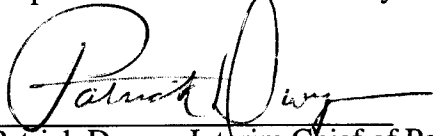
The second purpose of this informational report is to provide the Council with an early retrospective regarding crime and traffic safety in Hayward during the 2003 calendar year. The two charts represented on Attachment C present: (1) a comparison of major crime in Hayward during 2003 compared to 2002, and (2) traffic collision and citation data.

Generally speaking, serious crime is up slightly in the City of Hayward. In 2002, there were 5,583 reported serious crimes in our City. In 2003 that number increased to 5,791. Violent Crime, which includes, homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, increased by 1%. Property Crime, which includes burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson, also increased by 1%.

The State of California is not as efficient as our own staff in compiling statistics, so statewide crime statistics for calendar year 2003 are not yet available. However, when the State Attorney General's Office prepared a preliminary report of crime trends throughout the State, the AG's Office projected a Statewide increase in serious crime of about 1%...exactly what we saw in the City of Hayward.

What this means is that in spite of our tough economic times, and in spite of many the other factors that contribute to crime, our Police Department, working with our community, is holding the line on crime and traffic safety. We have done and will continue to do everything in our power to make Hayward a safe city in which to live, work, or visit.

Prepared and Recommended by:



Patrick Dwyer, Interim Chief of Police

Approved by:


Jesús Armas, City Manager

Attachments: Exhibit A – Existing Beats
Exhibit B – Proposed New Beats
Exhibit C – Crime and Traffic Statistics
Exhibit D – Chart – Part 1 Crime Rate
Exhibit E – Chart – Violent Crime Rate
Exhibit F – Chart – Property Crime Rate
Exhibit G – Chart – Part 1 Crime Rate Comparison of Cities 2002
Exhibit H – Chart – Violent Crime Rate Comparison of Cities 2002
Exhibit I – Chart – Property Crime Rate Comparison of Cities 2002

**DUE TO THE LENGTH OR COLOR
OF THE REFERENCED EXHIBIT,
IT HAS BEEN ATTACHED AS A
SEPARATE LINK.**